ustomer No.: 26308 Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Aboul-Hosn et al. Docket No.: 9261.16586-CIP 2

Serial No.: 09/470,697 Examiner: P. Bianco

Filed: 23 December 1999 Group Art Unit: 3762

Title: Apparatus and Methods for Entering Cavities of the Body

AMENDMENT D

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed September 21, 2004.

An automatic two-month extension of time to respond, up to and including February 21, 2005, is respectfully requested. The requisite fee accompanies this Amendment.

Please amend the application as follows: